



The GRANGE

Issue:66

February 1997



CHAIR'S REPORT



1997 is well underway with committee meetings, new volunteers in our midst, Daily Pursuits, volunteer suppers and Family Sundays.

February will be extra special. Allan Suddon's exquisite 1830s costumes will be displayed for four weeks starting February 11 to March 16. The Victorian costumed mannequins, which graced The Grange in October, did so much to enhance the rooms and stimulate interest in social history. I am sure this exhibit will do the same. Do spread the news.

Allan will be our guest speaker at the volunteer supper on Tuesday, February 18. You won't want to miss this excellent slide/lecture on 19th century costumes plus the great food from The Grange kitchen!

February 19th begins a new era for The Grange and the AGO. The \$7.50 entrance charge has been eliminated with a "pay what you can". It has been determined, as at the National Gallery in Ottawa, that the increase in attendance will cover off the shortfall. With many more visitors and improved signage, we can expect to be busier interpreters - a really exciting and rewarding development!

Hours have also been extended recognizing that evening openings in our society are more convenient and attractive for most people. The Grange, like the rest of the AGO, will be open on Thursday and Friday evenings. This presents new challenges but also great opportunities for innovative programming in sharing our historical house.

- Flo Morson, Chair, The Grange

CONCERTS in the MUSIC ROOM at The GRANGE

The Music Room at The Grange is where concerts, plays, dances and other events were to have taken place. Today, this room is where the Volunteer training suppers are held, as well as The Grange's Annual Christmas concert. On Sunday, Dec. 8 & Dec. 15th, 1996, The Grange hosted a Celtic Christmas Musicale. The event was a success and brought the room to life, much like it would have been over a century ago.

From the left, musicians were: Gale Brown, harp; Cavan Young, percussionist, Ursula Carsen, baroque flute; and Angelica Ottewill, harp. (Photograph by: Michael Hudson)



**The Grange
Volunteer Committee
1996-97**

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REMINDER

Please submit your news articles
for the next
Grange Newsletter by
APRIL 1st, 1997.

COMING EVENTS

Volunteer Training Suppers

Tuesday, February 18, 1997 @ 5:30 PM

Speaker: Allan Suddon

Allan Suddon will further enlighten us on his collection of historical costumes. Mr. Suddon's costumed mannequins will be on display in The Grange from Feb.11-Mar.16, 1997.

Docent Training Programs 1996-97

Each topic is offered during the day on Tuesdays or on Wednesday evenings in the Education Theatre. Free to The Grange Volunteers. See bulletin board for information.

Series (3) **THE DISQUIETING MUSE**

Jan. 21st/22nd, Feb. 4th/5th, and Feb. 18th/19th.

Series (4) **THE INVISIBLE WOMEN** in the AGO Collection.

Apr. 8th/9th, Apr. 22nd/23rd, and May 6th/7th.

March Break - Week of March 10-14, 1997

The Grange will be open each day, requiring extra volunteers for the Monday and Tuesday. Please sign up if you can help. Again this year, student volunteers will assist during March break at The Grange.

Features during March Break: Treasure hunts, word association games, and pin-pricking.

Family Sundays at The Grange

Each Sunday The Grange features special events such as treasure hunts and dressing up in period cloths for youngsters. The **third Sunday** of every month will also feature pin-pricking.

Annual Bus Trip May 6, 1997

Mark your calendars and sign you name for The Grange's annual bus trip. An architectural tour is planned for the town of Port Hope featuring author Katherine Ashenburg as our guide.

**VOLUNTEERS - REMEMBER TO WEAR YOUR SECURITY
IDENTIFICATION BADGES
ESPECIALLY IF YOU ARE WITHOUT YOUR COSTUME!**

WELCOME NEW VOLUNTEERS

Jason Allen, Beverley Graham - Friday
Jean Mears, Vicky Stathenas - Saturday
Jane Gladstone - Sunday

RESIGNATION

Carol Rawson - Wednesday evening
(Day Captain for many years)
Thank you and we wish you well!

CORRECTION

Louise Valois - New volunteer for Saturday

DECEASED

It is with sadness that we report the passing of Isobel Woollard on December 15, 1996. She worked in The Grange library and will be missed by her fellow Thursday volunteers.

EXTENDED HOURS, "PAY-WHAT-YOU-CAN" ADMISSION & The ARTCARD

On Wednesday, **February 19**, 1997 the Art Gallery of Ontario will introduce significant changes to its operations, making it more accessible to more people. The changes include a ground-breaking admission policy, extended evening hours, the re-launch of the Gallery restaurant, virtual 24-hour access through a redesigned Web site (www.ago.net), and the introduction of the ArtCard, a multi-use, electronic cash card.

On February 19, 1997 the **new admission policy** will take effect. Visitors are asked to "pay-what-you-can"; a fee of \$5.00 per person will be suggested. Currently, the admission is \$7.50 for adults and \$4.00 for seniors and students. The AGO will also **extend its hours of operation** staying open from 12 noon to 9 pm Wednesday to Friday and 10 am to 5:30 pm on Saturday and Sundays.

How will the new hours of operation affect The Grange?

Like the rest of the Art Gallery, The Grange will be open on Thursday and Friday evenings commencing Thursday, February 20, 1997. We are asking for volunteers to sign-up for Thursday and Friday evenings for a trial period of SIX weeks only. This may be instead of your usual shift or in addition to it. We need a minimum of two volunteers per evening shift. Over the six weeks, there is a total of twelve shifts, which means 24 people are needed to sign-up.

The plan is to accommodate our visitors with two guided tours each evening. A costumed Historical Interpreter will be on hand at the main entrance with a sign indicating "Tour of The Grange". There is to be a tour at 7:00 pm and a second tour for around 8:00 pm. If there are not enough visitors for the second tour, then the house may close for the remainder of the evening. This plan of operation will commence for a trial period of SIX weeks using our existing volunteers. If it is established that there is a need to continue the Thursday and Friday evening shifts, then staff will be trained and brought in for this purpose. No one then, is obligated to change their shift on a permanent basis.

Volunteers should refresh themselves on closing procedures of the house and must remember to wear their security badges. An escort to the street-car stop by security can be arranged for the late nighters.

The **ArtCard** is a transferable, multi-use, electronic cash card. The prepaid value can be debited for general admission, special events, exhibitions, purchases in the Gallery Shop, meals in the Gallery restaurant, courses and lectures, films and more.

Max Anderson says, "The ArtCard is many things. It is a debit card, a keepsake, and a great gift. Most of all, it is a passport to the AGO, one which we hope will ease the visitor's journey through the eighth largest art museum in North America."

The ArtCard, like other Smart Cards, has **collector potential** as it will feature famous works of art, including many from the Gallery's collection. The first will have a value of \$25.00, and feature Norwegian artist Edvard Munch's famous image The Scream, to coincide with the major exhibition on Edvard Munch.

March Break - Week of March 10-14, 1997

The Grange will be open each day, requiring extra volunteers for the Monday and Tuesday. **Please sign up if you can help.** We need five volunteers per day. Day captains for Monday and Tuesday will be Cathy Stroud and Barbara Brown respectively. You may contact the day captains or simply sign-up for one or more of these shifts.

March Break is always a busy time of year. Again this year, student volunteers from the educational department will assist during March break at The Grange. They will undergo training on March 5 from Helvi Hunter. Our students will work all five days of the March Break and will rotate through the various stations of the house. These will include: meet and greet, handing out treasure hunts and pencils, assisting in the kitchen area and assisting upstairs with the pin-pricking.

We will need some of you "seasoned" volunteers to bring it all-together during the March Break!

SPECIAL THANK YOU'S

Special thanks go to the volunteers who staffed The Grange table in the George Weston Hall for the Volunteer Committee's Shoppers Days. It was great Public Relations for The Grange - the public found out we existed, and we discovered how we need to be out, front and centre. Special kudos to Nancy Lofft for her shortbread.

To Elvira Putrus and the Grangers who hosted our Christmas Celtic concerts. You did a super job.

To all those Grangers who rallied around to host the Christmas party for the Education Department. What a super way to say thank you and to have a fund raiser.

To Connie Master, Marg McGuigan, Pat Robertson and others who welcomed the AGO staff on December 16, with mulled cider, Nancy Lofft's shortbread and genuine hospitality.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE AGO

GALLERY RESTAURANT RE-LAUNCH



The Art Gallery of Ontario is planning to re-launch its restaurant with a new name and menu in early 1997.

Distinguished chef, **Anne Yarymowich**, former Chef de Cuisine at Mildred Pierce Restaurant, will develop a Canadian cuisine that celebrates regionalism, foods in season and the use of fresh, local products.

It will coincide with the exhibition, **Edvard Munch: The Vivian and David Campbell Collection**, on view starting Feb. 28, 1997. At that time the restaurant will also be expanding its hours.

(information from www.AGO.net)

FRIDAYS - FOR SENIORS

Why not treat yourself to an informative day at the Gallery. Bring a friend and enjoy!

10:45 am -Artful Conversation - Half-hour tour, coffee and conversation, followed by a film screening at 12 noon in Jackman Hall

11:00 am- Introduction to the Gallery

1:00 pm-Special Exhibition tour

1:45 pm-Artful Conversation - Half-hour tour.

2:00 pm- Focus on the Collection.

AGO - ONLINE

Visit the Gallery's Web site at:
www.AGO.net

ALL THAT'S JAZZ RETURNS

The AGO continues its weekly eclectic jazz series.

Performers featured in January and February include the Keiran Overs Nonet, the Hot Five Jazzmakers, Bill Grove, Bob Fenton, Guh, Jean Derome and others.

Concerts take place Wednesdays evenings and
Sunday February 9, 1997.

For general information
please call
(416) 979-6608

AGO EXHIBITIONS

Edouard Baldus: Héliogravures
to February 23, 1997.

Architectural Journeys: A Panoramic View
to February 23, 1997.

Present Tense: Gabriel Orozco
to March 9, 1997.

Eros and Thanatos: In Photographic Motifs
February 26 to May 25, 1997.

The Mystical Landscapes of Charles-Marie Dulac
February 26 to May 25, 1997.

Edvard Munch: Prints from the Vivian and David Campbell Collection
February 28 to May 25, 1997.

Munch and Popular Culture
February 28 to May 1997.

YES, **THE SCREAM** WILL BE
HERE !

SECOND JOINT VENTURE : AGO and INNISKILLIN WINES INC.

The art of four contemporary Canadian artists are featured on the bottle labels of two Inniskillin Wines, Niagara Region, Canada. The following abstract works by Canadian artists are now featured on special edition bottles of 1994 Inniskillin Chardonnay Select and 1994 Inniskillin Cabernet Franc Merlot Select.

Time Machine Series by Joyce Wieland; **Exodus 1** by William Ronald; **On a Green Ground** by Jack Bush; and **Little Orange Painting II** by Gershon Iskowitz.

Last year's wine labels, featured Tom Thomson's *Northern River*, J.E.H. MacDonald's *Falls, Montreal River*, Lawren S. Harris's *Above Lake Superior*, and A.Y. Jackson's *Maple and Birches*.

Last year's labels won a **Best Niche Marketing** award from the L.C.B.O. and the J.E.H.

MacDonald's *Falls, Montreal River*, label won awards for **Best Series** and **Most Artistic Label** from the Society of Wine Educators annual international competition in Portland, Oregon. Both this year's and last year's labels were created by Toronto designer, Kevin Connolly.

(information from www.AGO.net)

FAMILY SUNDAYS CONTINUE INTO 1997

Featuring activities and interactive art fun for all ages. Explore, create, and expand your horizons. Family activities on Sundays are included with Gallery admission.

At **The Grange**, Family Sundays include activities such as pin-pricking, childrens' artifact hunt and dressing-up in period clothes.

HOME IS WHERE THE HEARTH IS

The open hearth and brick oven are two very much admired features of The Grange, especially when we display a roaring fire on those cold winter days. We hear the words "homey", "cozy", and "comfortable" frequently.

To help in attaining this atmosphere we have recently acquired new small bellows, made in Canada by the way, to be used in place of the antique bellows. The antique bellows are very fragile and beyond repair, so not to be handled any longer, even for demonstration. Please use the new ones if you wish to fan the flames or to demonstrate how they are used, remembering to identify them as reproductions.

While thinking about flames, let's all try to remember to lay a fire in the oven before leaving so our colleagues will have warm dry wood, enabling them easily to start a welcoming fire the next morning.

Before we leave the house we must also ensure that the embers are banked in a bed of ash. It seems that lately some over-zealous person has been removing ash to the point where sometimes we do not have a sufficient quantity left to do this safely. To date we have been unable to trace this activity to a staff member. If it should be a volunteer, remember we do need plenty of ash in the fireplace at all times.

Let's enjoy our fires with our visitors, but let's keep in mind that safety always come first where flames are concerned, and this means someone is always in attendance when a fire is lit. Let's keep The Grange fires burning brightly but safely.

- Anna Patrick.

JANE BEECROFT and the TOLLKEEPER'S COTTAGE

From Ladies Magazine
1832

When walking up stairs
" . . . a lady should
gracefully raise her
dress a little above her
angle (sic) (with one
hand only) . . . To raise
the dress on both sides,
and
with both hands,
is vulgar."

The Grange's January Volunteer Supper saw speaker Jane Beecroft present a splendid discussion on the Tollkeeper's Cottage. The cottage, dating to the 1830s, was originally located on the corner of Davenport and Bathurst streets and served as the residence for the person responsible for collecting the tolls at that corner. Over the years it was re-located and in 1995 the cottage was targeted for demolition. Thanks go to the Community History Project and the Toronto Historical Board who came to the rescue. The cottage is in need of restoration and contributions can be sent to the Toronto Historical Board, For the Tollkeeper's Cottage.

RECENT ACQUISITIONS AT THE GRANGE LIBRARY

Beaver, Patrick, comp. Victorian Parlour Games.
Wigston, Leicester, Magna Books, 1974.

Kalman, Bobbie. Early City Life. Niagara on the Lake,
Crabtree Pub. Co., 1983. (Volunteer Shelf)

Kalman, Bobbie and David Schimpky. Old-time Toys.
Niagara on the Lake, Crabtree Pub. Co., 1995.
(Historic Communities series) (Volunteer Shelf)

Kalman, Bobbie. Games From Long Ago. Niagara on
the Lake, Crabtree Pub. Co., 1995. (Volunteer
Shelf)

Kalman, Bobbie. Early Stores and Markets. Niagara on
the Lake, Crabtree Pub. Co., 1992. (Volunteer
Shelf)

Schimpky, David. Children's Clothing of the 1800s.
Niagara on the Lake, Crabtree Pub. Co., 1995.
(Volunteer Shelf)

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union. What
They Wore: Highlights of Fashion History.
Montreal, 1973.

COSTUMED HISTORICAL MANNEQUINS



Costumes from Allan Suddon's collection will be on display in various rooms throughout The Grange from **February 11 to March 16, 1997**. See the changes in fashion from the 1830s to the 1890s. The garments range through formal reception gowns in silks and velvets, simple cotton print morning dresses to dressing gowns and wrappers for undress occasions.

The following are excerpts from the Street family letters in The Grange archives:

Mary Ann Porter Street to her son Richard: June 24, 1851 from Montreal. She comments on Richard's weak eyesight -

"I wish you would use candles instead of a lamp for I am persuaded the bright light of the latter is very injurious to the eyes."

Of another son's impending marriage:

"...he ought to make the young lady who is to be his future wife, understand that she must not expect anything that is not of the plainest. - If she is really a sensible girl she will respect him the more for this - and certainly if I knew her, I should write to her to this effect."

On her journey to Montreal:

"I enjoyed my journey down exceedingly, and the day being fine and pleasantly warm. We were able to be on deck nearly the whole day. Mrs. William Boulton (presumably Harriet) came down with me, and was exceedingly kind and attentive. She arranged her affairs as to join me, thinking that I should require someone to take care of me."

1852 from Cobourg:

"I cannot imagine Emily to be stupid, she is such a lively little creature but I can imagine her to be very little disposed to study at present she is too fond of play and fun for that."

In an undated and unfinished letter:

"I will now advert to another subject which has occupied my thoughts since you were here last week. I allude to Emily's joining the sleigh driving parties with the Officers of the Regiment, unaccompanied by any married ladies. Even if these gentlemen were all known to be highly respectable and irreproachable in their conduct and character, I should not even then, think it altogether the thing, for a young girl to be driving about, with the Officers without a parent or brother or married friend. But when upon one, at least, of these young men there is much more than a shadow of doubt, in regard to the respectability of his character, I must say I should not like to see Emily in his sleigh. You naturally wish her to have every enjoyment in your power to procure her, at least, every safe and innocent enjoyment. Whatever may be said of his Lordship's polished and fascinating manner, this only makes him more dangerous and though I have the...

The letter ends here so there is no clue as to who His Lordship was, and also no evidence that this was ever seen by Emily's parents. (Emily was born in 1844 and in 1868 married D'Arcy Edward Boulton of Cobourg, a grandson of D'Arcy Jr.)

From Charles E. Casgrain, 13th October 1890

"Dear Sir:

Although I have not the honour or even the pleasure of your acquaintance, present circumstances compel me, as a duty, to inform you what has lately taken place.

As I was unable to go to Chicago, while Mrs. Dougall was with you, and explain personally to you my wishes, with regard to her, I will do so by letter.

Having known your daughter, Mrs. Dougall for (a) few years past as a true christian woman, of highly cultivated mind, irreproachable character, and a woman that any man can be proud of, I have proposed to her; after matured deliberation on her part, she has accepted my offer, and she is to (be) My Wife. I hope and trust to have the assurance, that you and Mrs Street will approved (sic) of our engagement.

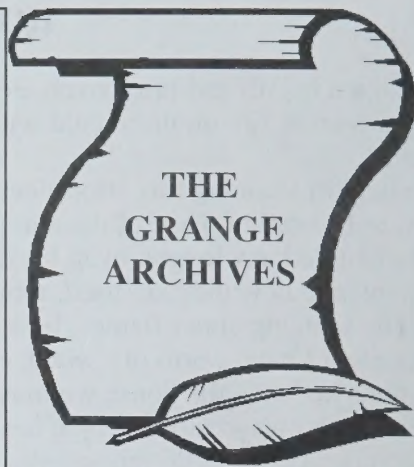
My intentions are to take her West after our union, to pay you our respects and have the pleasure of making your acquaintance, and of all the members of your family.

I have the honor (sic) to be

*Sir
Your Obedient Servant
Chas. E. Casgrain"*

I don't know which of Richard and Jane Harriet Street's daughters became Mrs. Dougall. I may find out later.

- Avril Stringer, Research, The Grange



Another letter among the "Street Family Papers" refers to sickness and bills to be paid.

The letter is dated Sept. 15, 1860 to His Royal Highness, Albert Edward, Prince of Wales etc etc, Hamilton from W.A. Barnes.

Envelope:

*To His Royal Highness
Albert Edward
Prince of Wales etc etc
Hamilton
C.W.*

Post mark on front;

Toronto Sp.17 60 CW

Postmark on back;

Hamilton SP 15 1860

The letter, on one sheet of paper, was written as the following:

Canfieald, Sept 12 1860

my mother is sick and there is 4 brothers 5 sisters and i are the oldest of them i are 22 years old and i must work hard to get then something to eat and the doctor must be paid someday. I are now working for mr. berriman at the Canfieald Station he is now present if you have A Doubt in me. May god bless you is my prear will you have Compassion on us mr. nobel whales

No more at present but remain your friend till death

W. a. Barnes.